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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

50X1-HUM

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH
USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

The following is a detailed report on the Jachymov uranium mines from the beginning of mining operations to the spring of 1948 when source fled from the CSK. Topics treated are summed up in the following prospectus:

1. First uranium operations
2. Operations after first World War
3. Population
4. German occupation
5. Return of Czechs after cessation of hostilities
6. Entry of Soviet troops
7. Post-war Czech administration in 1945
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- n. Werlsberg Mine
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There then follow two organizational charts

1. First uranium operations

About 1910 a radio-active spa was discovered by members of the Paris CURIE family in Jachymov on the site of former silver mines. Shortly thereafter, a health resort was built around the spa. Prospecting for uranium began just before the first World War and the first ore was sent to France for scientific experimentation. The first director of uranium prospecting and mining in the Jachymov area was Engr. STEP. Before his death in 1923 STEP had prospected the entire area thoroughly for indications of new uranium deposits, and had drawn up a series of maps and plans containing his surmises as to the location of suspected uranium veins.

2. Operations after first World War

In the post-war years, uranium mining operations were pursued on a large scale under Engr. STEP and his successor, Engr. PACAK. Since 1918, three shafts have been in continuous operation, namely, Svornost, Rovnost, and Bratrstvi. In 1923-1924, a uranium plant was built in Jachymov, and the first gram of radium produced in about 1926. This factory was located between the city's park and the medical establishment. Between seven and eight thousand kilograms of pure uranium ore were needed for the production of one gram of radium.

3. Population

At the close of 1938, Jachymov had 8300 residents, all of German extraction except for 524 Czechs. There was very little friction between Czechs and Germans. The city government was controlled and administered by persons of German extraction, and the official language of the city government was German. Despite the overwhelming preponderance of Germans, the Czech population of Jachymov had its representatives on the town council. These included the then managing director of the Svornost shaft, Engr. KOVAR, now director of the entire Jachymov project; Jaroslav PLACATKA, now treasurer of the Jachymov project; and Dr. Frantisek ZDARSKY, now Assistant Chief Doctor at Jachymov. The population was employed primarily in mining operations, although many worked at a large cigarette factory, and a sizeable number were employed in the various health facilities of this resort town. The standard of living at Jachymov was relatively high, and numerous residents, especially owners of hotels and boarding houses, became rather well-to-do. The last mayor before entry of the Germans in 1938 was Hans BRENNICH, a former miner, who did much to beautify the city.

4. German occupation

Following the taking over of Jachymov by the Germans in 1938, all Czechs were forced to vacate the town and environs, leaving almost all their possessions, as was the case in many places in the newly-occupied border areas. (This forced evacuation was duplicated later by the expulsion of the German population of this same area in 1945 - 1947.) The occupying Germans took over all civilian installations, including those of the mining administration. The mining administration buildings and individual shafts were turned over to the German authorities by Milos PETRAN, bookkeeper, and Viktor PROKSCH, Svornost mine inspector, at the instruction of the Czech government. During the German occupation, the various shafts were kept in operation, although, according to Josef BAYER, a prospector who remained working in the shafts until September 1944, production was very low, since most of the miners were drafted into the German army, leaving barely enough personnel to maintain operations within the three shafts. For example, there were only 30 miners working in the Svornost shaft in 1944, and similar conditions prevailed at Rovnost and Bratrstvi. During the German occupation the three shafts

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were renamed, as follows: Svornost to "Einigkeit", Rovnost to "Wernerschacht", and Bratrstvi to "Saechsisches Edelleute-Stoll". For some unknown reason the Germans in 1942 dismantled the Jachymov uranium plant, which was partly of brick, and partly of wood construction, and established a park on its site. As yet the uranium plant has not been rebuilt.

5. Return of Czechs after cessation of hostilities

Upon the liberation of Czechoslovakia, the power held by the German authorities at Jachymov was taken over by elements of the new Czech gendarmerie, customs officers and voluntary troops. Concurrently, the town was reoccupied by its former Czech residents. At the end of June 1945, approximately 25 former residents had returned to survey their former holdings. They took part in the town's provisional government, established contact with the "revolutionary" national government recently arrived in Prague, and began to expel the German population.

6. Entry of Soviet troops

On 4 May 1945, United States troops arrived at Jachymov but withdrew after a few hours. Two days later, Jachymov was occupied by Soviet troops. The individual shafts were immediately taken over, but the town was scarcely disturbed except for confiscation of the cigarette factory and tobacco warehouses. The individual mine shafts were placed under guard and anyone entering or loitering about these installations was thoroughly checked.

7. Post-war Czech administration in 1945

Shortly thereafter, Engr. PACAK returned to Jachymov, bringing instructions from the Prague government to take over the mining administration and start the shafts producing again. With PACAK came three former members of the pre-war mining administration at Jachymov, who now were assigned control over the three individual mine shafts, namely: Viktor PROKSCH to head Svornost, Vaclav HOSTA to head Rovnost, and Gustav LEVY to head Bratrstvi. These men were joined by several other former officials who returned to their old posts. There were also a number of indigenous Germans, who, unemployed because of the unsettled conditions at the end of hostilities, reported as laborers in the shafts. At the close of 1945 there were approximately 36 officials and approximately 2000 laborers employed in the mines.

8. Production in 1945

Production in 1945 was very low since hoisting machinery and other apparatus in the shafts was in poor condition as a result of years of neglect. Production was also affected by the expulsion of laborers and officials of German extraction, a process which began shortly after the cessation of hostilities and continued until April 1947. Production figures for 1945 are unknown to source. At the close of 1945, Soviet military occupation personnel took over the Hotel Union, second largest hotel in Jachymov, together with two smaller boarding houses. Hotel Union had been equipped with "radium-water baths" but the Soviet authorities ordered these facilities removed and replaced by normal water, despite strong protests from the town government.

9. Post-war Czech administration in early 1946

In early 1946, Engr. PACAK, who was over 65 years of age, was replaced by General Director Engr. Bohumil HEGNER, who was named for this position by President BENES himself. Together with HEGNER there arrived at Jachymov several new engineers and technicians, and a number of civil servants lent to the mining administration by the government. Those of importance who arrived at Jachymov at this time are listed, as follows:

1. Engr. Josef CHTLAK, Deputy to the General Director;
2. Engr. Antonin ZALUD, Second Deputy to the General Director;
3. Engr. Josef KAZIMOUR, Commercial Director;
4. Dr. Frantisek VEVERKA, Head of Legal Department;
5. Engr. Karel CERNIK, Head of Statistics Department;
6. Engr. Josef KALAB, Head of Surveying Department;

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7. Engr. Karel PEJINA, Head of Machinery and Electrical Department;
8. Jaroslav PLACATKA, Treasurer;
9. Frantisek BUCEK, Head of Personnel Department;
10. Frantisek KOPECEK, Head of Bookkeeping Department;
11. Frantisek VAGIK, Social Welfare Representative;
12. Karel LENGER, Head of Construction Department;
13. Frantisek SAKMAR, Chief of Mail Office;
14. Jan JEZEK, Industrial Councillor (Betriebsrat);
15. Major Antonin KOCIAN, Head of Political and Criminal Screening Section;
16. Lt. KORYMA, Commander of the administration's armed guards.

Reorganization of the administration into the various departments and sections had little immediate effect on the progress of mining operations, and served merely to set up a table of organization for the administration. (See chart A below)

10. Labor shortage through expulsion of Germans

During the spring and summer of 1946, expulsion of Volksdeutsche from Czechoslovak border areas reached a high point, and work in the mines was deeply affected through withdrawal of Volksdeutsche laborers. In order to save the situation, the Jachymov Mine Administration appealed to the Czechoslovak Ministry of the Interior to exempt from expulsion those Volksdeutsche employed in the mines. The Ministry of the Interior agreed, and shortly thereafter lists of Volksdeutsche who were considered of primary importance in the functioning of the mines were compiled by the Social Welfare Department of the Mine Administration. These lists, however, did not contain the names of dependents, i.e., wives and children, of listed workers. The result was that dependents were forcibly expatriated, and those on the lists forcibly retained to work in the mines. Such shattered families apparently found haven in the Soviet Zone of Germany, but were often refused entry into the U.S. Zone. Because of this situation, permission was later granted the families of persons on these lists to remain in the Jachymov area, and to enjoy the protection of the Mine Administration. The Czechoslovak Ministry of the Interior later issued documents attesting to the special status of persons on these lists. Largely because of this action, there remain in Jachymov at present about three hundred Volksdeutsche families.

Despite this attempt to retain Volksdeutsche specialists and workers, loss of labor through expulsion was so great that the Jachymov Mine Administration was forced to take extraordinary measures to provide labor for the enterprise. At first there was a wide-spread advertising campaign in newspapers throughout the country, with out little success. Results of this recruiting campaign, however, did raise the number of mining officials during the middle of 1946 to an over-all total of 85. It is noted that at this time all persons who reported to the mines for employment were taken on without consideration of their former employment. Officials were often hired merely because they were members of the Communist Party.

11. The first Soviet experts

Until the end of 1945 the only Russians in Jachymov consisted of between 300 - 500 occupation troops. During the first few months of 1946, however, a few Soviet engineers arrived from Russia. Their arrival was greeted by Communists in the Mine Administration who proudly explained that, since Czechoslovakia had so few technicians for this type of work, Soviet engineers had been recruited to lend a helping hand. Two or three months later, it was realized that the Soviets were forming their own separate mine administration. The first Soviet officials to attain leading positions were:

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Engineer KOLICHEV

Head of the Laboratory.

Engineer PAVLENKO

Active as technical advisor.

A little later, the above-mentioned were joined by Engineer YECHMENIKOV, who headed the Social Welfare Department. YECHMENIKOV was particularly powerful, since the Czech Administration could obtain absolutely nothing from the Soviet representatives without his signature. It was soon observed that the Soviets were working wholly by themselves, and were busy studying the entire procedure in the mines. During this time, it was forbidden for any Czech to enter any of the newly constructed offices or the laboratory which the Soviets were using. All instructions or recommendations issued by Soviet experts had to be executed quickly and accurately by the Czechs.

The Soviet laboratory

In September 1946, other Soviet nationals appeared in Jachymov. This group included mostly secretaries and office workers, but was followed shortly thereafter by Soviet miners. A few families also arrived and had to be provided with suitable dwellings. At the end of 1946 the Soviet colony at Jachymov numbered approximately eighty persons.

12. Increased Soviet activity

By June 1946, the main administration building was under repair, the cigarette factory was being remodeled for the Soviet offices and laboratory, and Soviet troops had already left Jachymov. At the close of the summer of 1946, a strongly worded directive arrived from Moscow stating that not enough was being accomplished in Jachymov. Various special tasks were assigned to be executed in the shortest possible time. This proved difficult, since officials and technicians were not capable of fulfilling such demands. At this time General Director HERNER was often called to Prague for conferences with Engr. Svetopluk RADA, the general director of all Czech mining industries, and Engineer KOVARS, deputy to RADA. These conferences were designed to devise methods to increase production and do away with the hindrances to smooth operation. Shortly thereafter, pay rates for laborers were increased by approximately 80%.

13. Russian dependents

During the fall of 1946 more Soviet families and young Soviet experts came to Jachymov. Several new boarding houses and hotels were confiscated for their use, among them Hotel Union, where a Russian moving picture theater was also established. Shortly before the beginning of the school year, the best public school in the town was requisitioned by the Soviets. Several families lived in part of this school, the rest being used as a school for Soviet children. In late autumn, the Soviet colony was joined by Engineer USACHEV, who acquired the position of deputy to Engr. KRIVONOSOV, and Miss KOLESNIKOVA, who became secretary to the superimposed Soviet element of the Jachymov Mine Administration.

14. First laboratory activity

One of the first objectives of special interest to the Soviets was establishment of a laboratory. The original laboratory consisted of two simply furnished rooms in the Mine Administrative building. After the Soviets requested space in the cigarette factory for a new laboratory, the Mine Administration was requested to initiate proceedings for purchase of the entire factory, which was to be turned over to the Soviets. This request was fulfilled in May 1946, although it must be added that in November 1947 the Soviets authorized transfer of most of the important elements of the Czech Mine Administration to the cigarette factory, where office space was made available.

The Soviet laboratory began to function in the fall of 1946. Here, testing of uranium content and radio-activity of ore samples was carried out. Miss KARABUSHINA, a Soviet national working in the laboratory, distinguished herself as particularly efficient in this type of work. At this time a Soviet geological and prospecting section was created. Soviet geologists were assigned to each shaft and were equipped with special uranium prospecting devices sensitive to radio-activity. Operations were also carried out on the surface, and the results entered on geological maps in an effort to determine the direction of pinpointed uranium veins.

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As was to be expected, the favorable results of the prospecting encouraged the Russians, in April 1946, to bring in more experts and laborers and increase the work tempo. In every mine Soviet foremen and inspectors were stationed. Since then there have been a larger number of Soviet nationals working as laborers in the various shafts. These laborers, working in accordance with the Stakhanovite system, were meant to instill the Czech workers with a desire for better results. At the same time a Soviet engineer was assigned to each mine in order to gain a full understanding of its operation.

15. Opening of Elias Mine

Late in August 1946, the Elias Mine was opened. Buildings on the site were renovated into habitable shaft houses, offices, dressing rooms, warehouses and work shops. A forest path leading from the highway to Elias was widened into a usable roadway. A troop of seventy Czech volunteer soldiers was assigned to Elias and preliminary repair and construction operations were begun. These volunteers, of whom 240 worked in the Jachymov area, arrived the first week of September 1946 and worked at Elias for four months. After the volunteers left, labor was supplied by German and Austrian PW's.

16. Official visits

During this period, Engineer VOLOKHOV, Deputy to the Soviet Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, ZORIN, visited Jachymov on several occasions, often in the company of Engineer RADA, Engineer KOVAR and a large group of officials from the Soviet Embassy in Prague. VOLOKHOV's visit was usually an unpleasant occasion, since he always brought new instructions and propositions which were always "to be carried out immediately". In November 1946 Soviet Ambassador ZORIN, himself came to Jachymov together with Dr. FIERLINGER, Czech Minister of Industry. This visit was kept highly secret. During his visit, ZORIN addressed certain of the Soviet officials in Jachymov in a meeting in the Hotel Union in which the most important aspects of the Jachymov project were discussed. This meeting was attended by a few high-placed Czechs, notably Minister FIERLINGER, Lt. KORYA and Peter TITL, Head of the County Government. (In 1945 TITL, a long-time Communist worker, had been sent to Jachymov on special instructions from the Minister of the Interior, NOSEK, and installed in this position.) Dating from ZORIN's visit to Jachymov, the attitude of the Soviets toward the Czechs changed noticeably, with the Soviets, in many instances, showing insolence in their association with Czechs and attempting obviously to exclude Czechs from the closed Soviet community. In December 1946 the Soviets installed a dispensary in the former cigarette factory. The dispensary, under the jurisdiction of a Soviet male and female doctor, was opened to all Czechs in Jachymov as no other suitable dispensary existed.

17. Operations in early 1947

During the first months of 1947, the Jachymov Mine Administration continued to suffer through a lack of qualified laborers. During the autumn of 1946 and especially in February 1947, expulsion of German families continued. The lack of workers had not been materially alleviated by the approximately 400 German and Austrian PW's who had been in Jachymov since the summer of 1946. During this time the Ministry of the Interior issued a large number of "specialist certificates", resulting in the retention to date in Jachymov of 300 German families (1,400 to 1,500 persons), of which approximately 70%, including both men and women, are employed in some capacity in the mines. During this period a large number of Czechs also reported for work in Jachymov, but almost all requested a decent home as prerequisite for their services. The Mine Administration could not provide suitable living quarters because homes of expelled Germans had been left in an uninhabitable condition. The repair of an average housing unit lasted approximately three months.

18. Housing Conditions

In February 1947, a Building Administration Section was formed to recondition houses in Jachymov which had been confiscated from former German owners (about 95% of all the houses in Jachymov). The Mine Administration itself had first priority over confiscated houses; its requirements for office space were given first consideration. Since the Construction Section of the Mine Administration by government directive was not permitted to do repair work on confiscated houses, seven firms contracted to aid in this endeavour. These firms were:

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Skorkovsky, Prague
 Sagasser, Prague
 Hurych, Novy Bydzov
 Stolle and Watzke, Aussig an der Elbe
 Kopal, Jachymov
 Kubicek, Karlsbad
 Tichy, Karlsbad

Repair work began in March and April 1947. The Skorkovsky Company had been repairing the cigarette factory since autumn 1946.

19. New attempts to recruit labor

As the result of ever-increasing Soviet pressure as well as higher efficiency and production in the mines, the Jachymov Mine Administration was compelled to consider an enlargement of the Administration Department, and to develop new sections. In order to realize this plan, it was necessary to recruit a larger number of engineers, officials, and specialists for the various shafts as well as for the expanded administrative machinery. The Director of the Personnel Section Dr. Pavel PAV, in July 1947, received instructions from General Director HEGNER to insert advertisements in the newspapers of all four political parties. Dr. PAV, who had replaced Frantisek BUCEK in November 1946 as Chief of the Personnel Section, was then supposed to evaluate all applications derived from these advertisements and to make appropriate recommendations to the General Director's Office. Dr. PAV, a loyal member of the BENES Party, considered only applications answered through the newspapers of BENES' or the People's Parties. The Communist Party regime lost no time, however, in fighting this action.

Since 1 April 1947, the Legal Section, Jachymov Mine Administration, had been headed by Dr. Vaclav HANZLICEK, who had replaced Dr. Miroslav KANERA, who had in turn replaced Dr. Frantisek VEVERKA. Dr. HANZLICEK, a strong Communist, had been placed in his position at the personal order of Svatopluk RADA. After the Communist Party leadership in Jachymov had learned of PAV's refusal to employ those who had applied for positions through the Communist press, Dr. HANZLICEK informed General Director HEGNER that he, as head of the Administrative Department, and therefore PAV's superior, was authorized to supervise recruitment of new laborers and that PAV had no right to go over his head in such matters. From this point on, recruitment was halted, and a two-month dispute which ensued between PAV and HEGNER on one side and HANZLICEK on the other, came to a head in a special visit by Engr. RADA. The result was complete victory for HANZLICEK, since all persons seeking employment had to be acceptable to the Communist Party leadership. Recruitment was thereafter handled by HANZLICEK's office, with no interference from PAV's Personnel Section. Since PAV persisted in his stand, he was transferred to a very minor position from which he resigned three weeks later. He was replaced as head of the Personnel Section by Dr. Pavel SKALICKY, a Communist. The standstill in recruiting labor was aggravated by the last expulsions of Volksdeutsche in the Jachymov area which were concluded on 14 April 1947. When the shaft authorities complained that it was impossible for existing labor to fulfill the amount of work required, the Russians in July 1947 shipped in from Germany two further transports of German PW's. The transports, numbering 900 to 1,600 persons respectively, arrived without previous notice and were assigned immediately to the various shafts to begin work as normal miners.

Despite the influx of new workers, however, there still remained a shortage of foremen in the pits, and the Mine Administration, in the early summer of 1947, opened a foremen's school with classes lasting four months. In normal times, a foremen's school could be attended only by miners with at least five years experience, and the classes had lasted two years. Now the school was open even to men without experience provided they showed some promise. Classes were held from 0730 to 1200 hours for theoretical instruction, and the students worked in the pits from 1400 to 2200 hours. All forty-four students of the first class were graduated and were immediately taken on as qualified foremen.

20. Re-organization

In April 1947 the Jachymov Mine Administration was reorganized as follows (see Chart B below).

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Office of the General Director

General Director: Engineer Bohumil HEGNER

Secretary: Zdenka TUNOVA

Office Boy: Grantisek SKLTNAR

Until November 1947 all main offices and sections were located in the old Mine Administration building. After this date, the office of the General Director was located in the cigarette factory, 3rd floor.

Office of the First Deputy to the General Director

Engineer: Joseph CTEELAK, technical director.
Office located in cigarette factory, 3rd floor.

Office of the Second Deputy to the General Director

Engineer Antonin ZALUD
Office located in cigarette factory, 3rd floor.

Planning Section

Chief: Engineer Josef KAZIMOUR, in charge of determining work norms, production plans, keeping records of performance and statistics for the entire industry.

Office Staff: three officials.
Office located in cigarette factory, 3rd floor.

Commercial Section

Chief: Andrej ACZEL

In charge of procurement and distribution of necessary materials such as steel, iron and lumber; in charge of Transportation Sub-Section: in charge of central warehouse. (Source Comment: The Commercial Section also has a separate Commercial Office in each mine, which carries out distribution of needed materials. For example, if a mine needs new hoisting machinery, the mining engineer and inspector apply to the Commercial Office in the particular mine which works out the technical part of the application and sends it on to the Commercial Section, where it is checked and approved or disapproved.)

Office Staff : Seventeen men and one woman.
Office headed by Josef LEDILLA since September 1947, is located in cigarette factory, 2nd floor.

Legal Section

Chief: Dr. Vaclav HANZLICEK

Director of all administration matters; also specifically in charge of all legal matters, to include purchasing and contracts; represents the Mine Administration at workers' courts.

Office Staff: two men and one woman.
Office located in cigarette factory, 2nd floor.

Booking Section

Chief: Frantisek KOPECEK

In charge of accounts, payment of bills, computation of monthly and weekly wages, determination of inventories. At each mine a separate bookkeeping office kept time sheets for the various shifts and computed the earning rate in accordance with the norm system. At the end of the month, these entries were tallied up and sent to the Central Bookkeeping Section for checking and subsequent transfer to the payment office. For every kilogram of uranium mined, a miner received a premium.

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of 10 Kcs. This performance record was tallied in a separate secret account.

KOPECEK once stated to source that in 1938 uranium from Jachymov was priced 25% higher than the international rate. Since Belgian uranium had been priced at 40,000 Kcs. per kilogram, Jachymov uranium would have been priced at 50,000 Kcs. per kilogram if the Russians had permitted normal export. KOPECEK indicated that the Mine Administration had to pay the entire expenses of all operations, and the Russians, at least until that time (November 1947) had not helped financially, except by paying for their own prospecting. During 1946 the bookkeeping for Soviets and Czechs was kept by the same office. Since January 1947, however, the Soviets have kept their own books, although all Soviets employed in any capacity in the industry are paid indirectly by the Czech Mine Administration. As indicated above, the Soviets paid for their own prospecting, amounting to approximately 6,000,000 Kcs. per month.

Office located in cigarette factory, 1st (ground) floor.

Technical Section

Chief: Engineer Vladislav HULVA

In charge of technical matters and repair of all machinery in the mines.

Office staff: two men.

This section operated under the greatest difficulty because hoisting machinery, water pumps, compressors and other technical equipment necessary to mine operation were hard to get, even though the Jachymov Mine Administration had highest priority for deliveries of such equipment. In some instances the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Industry intervened in an attempt to get machinery cleared, produced, and delivered as quickly as possible. The Soviets furnished nothing in the way of machinery, their entire contribution consisting of some trucks, and civilian cars for the use of Soviet officials.

Office located in old Mine Administration building, 2nd floor.

Electrical Section

Chief: Engineer Jiri PARVA

In charge of all electrical circuits, electric motors, telephone wires and telephone switchboards (one in the old Mine Administration building, the second in the cigarette factory).

Office Staff: one man and one woman.

Office located in old Mine Administration building, 2nd floor.

Central Work Shop

Chief: Josef KAPLAN

The Central Work Shop has three sections: A lock-smith shop, a carpenter shop, and an electrical work shop, all of which are well equipped with tools and machinery. Only minor repairs are done here. Other work, such as construction of floors, doors and windows for houses, or electrical installations have to be done by outside firms on a contract basis. There are approximately ninety persons employed in the Central Work Shop, not including P.W.'s, who are more often than not employed in some sort of specialist capacity.

Office located in outlying building belonging to the cigarette factory, which consists of three separate buildings in all.

Personnel Section

Chief: Dr. Pavel SKALICKY

In charge of recruitment and discharge of employees; distribution of special passes and keeping of personnel files.

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Office Staff: four men and three women.

Office located in cigarette factory, 1st (ground) floor.

Social Welfare Section

Chief: Frantisek VACIK

This section consists of the following subsections:

Welfare Subsection

In charge of procuring clothing and shoes for mine laborers; distribution of ration coupons; distribution of coal and wood rations; social assistance.

Office Staff: three persons.

Nutrition Subsection:

In charge of the kitchens which prepare meals for the workers and of special food and ration cards. There were approximately fifteen work kitchens in the Jachymov area offering noon and evening meals to laborers. In some areas, however, where there were few villages and no food shops, the work kitchens fed entire families. This was the case at Seigen, Elias, Maria-Sorg, and Zwittermuehle. The subsection also distributed special monthly food packages to laborers. Until the spring of 1947, this special ration was made up almost entirely of American products. After this time, it consisted of Russian products. Aside from the special food package, miners received 5 dkgs. fat for every shift worked. There was also a special distribution of 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ kilos of bacon sold quarterly to the workers.

Housing Subsection

In charge of procuring and assigning living quarters to miners.

Office Staff: two persons.

Hygiene Subsection

Control of sanitation in work kitchens in all buildings inhabited by those working in the mines, and also issuance of transfers due to reasons of health.

Office Staff: one person

Office located in cigarette factory, 1st (ground) floor.

Inspection Section

Chief: Norbet CABLIK

In charge of inspecting all administrative activity. This section worked very efficiently and uncovered several cases of corruption. Since most such cases concerned more important officials, the incidents were usually glossed over.

Office Staff: three men and two women.

Office located in old Mine Administration building, 1st (ground) floor.

Mail Office

Chief: Frantisek SYKORA, in charge of distribution and delivery of mail.

Office Staff: three men and four women.

Office located in cigarette factory, 2nd floor.

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Paymaster's Office

Paymaster: Jaroslav PLACATKA

In charge of disbursements for wages, premiums, overtime, travel allowances and discharge bonuses.

Office Staff: one man.

Office located in cigarette factory, 1st (ground) floor.

Surveying Section

Chief: Josef KALAB

In charge of surveying operations in the mines and surrounding territory, together with production and reproduction of charts.

Office located in cigarette factory, second building, 1st (ground) floor.

Property Administration Section

Chief: Josef SUK

This section supervises agricultural activities on suitable property requisitioned by the mine administration. This section also maintains about 45 horses, which were used in winter when some of the roads to outlying mines were impassable by automobile traffic.

Office Staff: two men.

Office located in old Mine Administration building, 1st (ground) floor.

Security Section

Chief: Major Antonin KOCIAN

Charged with checking the background of all employees for activities during the German occupation. This section, a counterpart of which exists in all large Czech industries, is subordinate to the Ministry of the Interior. Every new employee had to be approved by this section before he could be hired. If the prospective employee had been active as an anti-Communist, he was not approved by the section. Among PW's working at Jachymov, there were many who had been released from British or American PW camps, only to be rearrested by the Soviets after returning home to the Soviet Zone of Germany. Following their arrival in Jachymov, they were interrogated by members of the Security Section with regard to conditions in the American and British occupation zones.

Office located in cigarette factory, 2nd floor.

Construction Section

Chief: Engineer and Architect, Adolf FENCL

Office Staff: Two construction engineers; four planning engineers; seven construction assistants; three female secretaries; one warehouse keeper; three bookkeepers; three building inspectors; fourteen female charwomen; six plasterers; ten laborers; three carpenters; one locksmith; one porter. In all, twenty-three officials and thirty-five laborers. The Construction Section is in charge of all minor building operations at the mine site, to include repairs of living quarters owned by the Mine Administration. Large scale repairs and construction of new houses were performed by outside construction firms who worked under the general supervision of the Construction Section. In the last month of source's stay at Jachymov there were seven outside construction firms working in the Jachymov area. Of the 974 houses belonging to the Mine Administration at the close of 1947, 413 had been confiscated and 230 were in repair. Construction of three larger apartment houses had been begun to provide 68 new residential units. The cost of repair of a typical house was approximately 140,000 Kcs.

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The cost estimate for construction of the three larger apartment buildings was set at 38,000,000 Kcs, or 560,000 Kcs. per apartment building not including furnishings. In early 1948, construction began on a hundred residential units in Ostrov (Schlackenwert), near Karlsbad. These houses were scheduled for completion by the end of the year. In Jachymov, itself, plans were completed for construction of two hundred residential units to be completed by the end of 1949. There have been rumors that the Russians are planning construction of approximately one thousand residential units throughout the uranium area. Talk of this Soviet plan followed a meeting in the winter of 1947 of officials of the Soviet Administration. No concrete indications of such a project had appeared when source left Jachymov.

Office located in old Mine Administration building, both 1st and 2nd floors.

Building Administration Section

Chief: formerly Stanislav SLATINSKY

Office Staff: one man and one woman.

In charge of determining usability of confiscated houses and properties throughout the entire uranium area in Czechoslovakia; management of all real estate of the Mine Administration; collection of rents and supervising construction of buildings. The number and location of buildings desired by the Mine Administration was determined largely by the results of surveying and prospecting carried out through the entire uranium area by Soviet specialists. These requests were presented to the Building Administration Section in writing by Engineer CMELEK, and later by Dr. HANZLICEK. The Building Administration Section then contacted local mayors and town councilors in order to select the proper number of suitable buildings for requisition. If the local town councilor refused to give up a certain hotel factory, or other building; this was reported immediately to the Ministry of the Interior in Prague, with the result that the matter was always settled in favor of the Mine Administration.

(Source Comment: In requisitioning buildings, it was necessary to determine if the property in question was owned by the Government, if it was confiscated, or if it was private property. Confiscated property includes only those holdings of Volksdeutsche and Hungarians who were not able to retain their Czech citizenship. After the cessation of hostilities in 1945, this confiscated property was placed at the disposal of the Fond Narodni Obnovy (National Renewal Fund), and the Narodni Posemkovy Fond (National Land Fund), and both agencies were authorized to sell this confiscated property to certain classes of buyers on an established priority system. The Fond Narodni Obnovy handled buildings while the Narodni Posemkovy Fond dealt with land holdings. Priorities are arranged as follows:

1. The Czech State
2. Nationalized industry
3. The peasantry
4. Small shopkeepers
5. Families which settled in the border area after the end of World War II.

Both of these national agencies were represented in every city through the Town Council and all applications for purchase of such property were forwarded through them ever since this policy went into effect in November 1947. Given these circumstances it is understandable that the Mine Administration was desirous of taking over as much confiscated property as was suitable for their operations. This included numerous residential units, small factories to be used as warehouses, hotels to be used as work kitchens, and land holdings to be used for prospecting shafts.)

As of 29 February 1948, the Jachymov Mine Administration had requested and received the following confiscated property:

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<u>City</u>	<u>Total Houses</u>	<u>Number of Houses Assigned to Mine Administration</u>
<u>County Jachymov</u>		
Jachymov - City	974	413
Sucha (Duernberg) belong to	124	86
Nove Mesto (Neustadt) Jachy-	36	29
Marianska (Marias org) mov	26	22
Werlsberg Stadt-	35	27
Werlsgruenn gemeinde	13	12
Boží Dar (Gottesgab)	192	72
Seifen	78	64
Horni Zdar (Ober Brand)	59	2
Petruzi (Salmtal)		1 Sawmill
Lipa		1 Sawmill
<u>County Nejdek</u>		
Potucky (Breitenbach)	172	45
Dolina (Ziegenschacht)	ca 20	4
Haje (Zwittermuehle)	ca 30	11
Smolne Pece	21	5
Hrebecne (Hengsterben)	196	64
Abertam, - (Abertham)	434	27
Pernink (Barringen)	ca 240	10
Horni Blatna (Platten)	ca 350	22
<u>County Vejprty</u>		
Vejprty (Weipert)	1200	14
Nove Zvolani (Neugeschrei)	ca 500	14
<u>County Elbogen-Loket</u>		
Horni Slavkov	ca 500	14
Krasno nad Lesy - (Schonfeld)	ca 450	9
<u>County Plana, near Mariánské Lázně</u>		
Čech Svateho Václava	ca 40	7
<u>County Karlovy Vary</u>		
Ostrov (Schlackenwert)	453	27
Total		1003 Houses 2 Sawmills

In the Seifen area the houses are approximately 600-800 meters distant from each other. All 64 houses concerned and the surrounding country-side was bought by the Mine Administration from the Narodní Pozemkový Fond for 149,900 Kcs. In Horní Zdr, the two buildings requisitioned belonged to a factory which formerly produced electric stoves. This factory was remodeled into a large warehouse. Across from the warehouse a new central garage is being built. In Ostrov (Schlackenwert), aside from 27 houses which were requisitioned, a castle was bought and remodeled into family size apartments and single rooms for unmarried employees of the Mine Administration. It is believed that approximately 30 families and from 80 to 100 single persons will be able to live in the remodeled castle.

SLATINSKY's office was located in cigarette factory, 3rd floor.

Scientific Research Section

Chief: Dr. of Geology, Frantisek MASEK

Office Staff: five men.

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This section conducts tests in each mine to determine air pressure in the various mine tunnels and to test chemical content of the water throughout the whole area. Aside from these activities, the section runs a laboratory where guinea pigs and mice are raised for scientific experiments.

Office located in separate house (No. 96), 300 meters from Svornost mine shaft.

Factory Guard Section

Chief: Lt. KORYLA

Office Staff: five employees

The factory guards number about 600 men, most of whom served in the Czech Brigade in Russia during the last war. Source believes no one who served in any Western-sponsored Czech brigade is employed here. Factory guards are posted at the entrances to all mines to inspect the special passes issued to persons having business on the premises. They also stand guard over the PW's. Factory guards are armed with revolvers, rifles, or sub-machine guns. They have military training and drill. All factory guards are members of the Communist Party.

Office located in separate house (No. 38) directly beside old Mine Administration buildings.

Industrial Council

Chairman: Frantisek URBASEK

Office Staff: two men and one woman.

The Chairman of the Industrial Council represents the employees in matters concerning employees and management. This committee also supervises cultural activities of employees.

Office located in cigarette factory, 1st (ground) floor.

Central Garage

Chief: KORYAGIN, Soviet national

The Central Garage, along with an automobile repair shop, is located temporarily in the cigarette factory until building operations for its new location at Horni Zdar (Ober Brand) are completed.

Garage Staff: five officials and approximately 20 mechanics, not including PW's.

The motor pool of the Jachymov Mine Administration at the end of 1947 consisted of 70 trucks and 36 automobiles.

Medical Section

Head Doctor: Eugen PETRACEK

Staff: one assistant doctor (Russian); five medical assistants, and four drivers to man the two ambulances.

This section began operations in August 1947. Every miner working directly in the mines is supposed to be examined once a year and the results of these examinations are used for scientific purposes, since continued proximity to radioactive substances affects the human body. This section also partially performs the work of a normal dispensary. It is located in house No. 389.

Special Corps, SNB

Chief: Captain Frantisek CHLEBOUN

A special corps of SNB (Security Police) numbering 800 to 900 men operates throughout the uranium area. The SNB performs normal police work, in addition to patrolling the streets and forest areas in the neighborhood of each mine. Until the summer of 1947, the corps was fitted out and supplied by the Mine Administration. After this date, however, the supply function was taken over by the Ministry of the Interior, which now pays all costs for this service.

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Office and barracks located across from the cemetery in the old poorhouse, Lidicka ulice 714.

21. The Soviet Administration

The organization and personalities of the Soviet Administration have changed a number of times since its origin. Several leading engineers remained at Jachymov for periods not exceeding two or three months. In April 1947 the Soviets proclaimed a new organization as follows:

Director's Office

Director: Engr. KRASNIKOV

It is noted that Engr. KRIVOKOSOV was recalled to Moscow in October 1946.

Office Staff: one secretary; Miss KOLESNIKOVA, one interpreter
Miss SKOPALOVA (Czech).

Since November 1947, almost all offices of the Soviet Administration are located in the cigarette factory, 2nd floor.

Technical Section

Chief: Engr. USACHEV. Engr. PAVLENKO was transferred to Germany in October 1946.

Laboratory:

Chief: Engineer KOLICHEV

Main office in cigarette factory, third building.

Geological Section

Chief: name unknown.

Social Welfare Section

Chief: Engineer YECHMENIKOV

Bookkeeping Section

Chief: name unknown

Prospecting Section

Chief: Antonin ZALUD (Czech, second Deputy to the General Director).

New mines are opened on the basis of this section's findings. Prospecting in any one place usually lasts one to two years and includes drilling and test shafts from 80 to 120 meters deep.

22. P.W. Enclosure

A PW camp is located between the cigarette factory and the Bratrstvi Mine. The administration of this camp, which takes charge of all PW's working in the area, is controlled by the Soviets. Aside from the Mine Administration, the camp includes a hospital, a dispensary, a tailor's work shop, a shoemaker's workshop, etc. Each PW receives 2 Kcs. per day. This money, as well as the prisoner's food, is provided by the Mine Administration.

It is noted that the Soviet Administration operates in almost complete independence of the Czech Mine Administration, although all directives put out by the Czechs must first be approved by the Soviets. In Jachymov there are approximately 150 Soviet families, aside from 150 to 200 unmarried Soviet specialists. Soviet employees in Jachymov are systematically transferred back to Russia after a certain

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time, no matter what position they occupy. Only one day's notice is granted, and departure for Russia takes place from the airport at Prague.

23. The Individual Mines

At every mine site there are independent workshops for locksmiths, carpenters, smiths, welders, as well as offices of the local administration, bookkeeping offices, warehouses, and social welfare sections. The local administrator of each mine is an engineer; his deputy is the foreman with the longest service. In addition to the official Czech management at each mine, there is always a Soviet engineer on hand who in fact makes the final decisions. Besides the mine management, employees include a head foreman, foremen, mine inspectors, blasting experts, pickmen, drillers, pumpers, timber workers, and helpers. Work in all mines is done six days per week in three shifts, as follows: first shift from 0600 to 1400 hours; second shift from 1400 to 2200 hours; third shift from 2200 to 0600 hours. All the machinery in each of the mines has been renovated, and there is new machinery in the new mines. Renovation costs approximately 100,000,000 Kcs. for each mine.

a. Working Procedure

Preparatory work, such as opening a new shaft, clearing away the slag, and widening the tunnels, is done by inexperienced miners. Experienced workers are employed only in exploiting the uranium veins. Samples are continually collected and given to ore-checkers who are always Soviet nationals. The ore-checkers also keep records of the amount of ore mined by each miner, thereby determining the exact premium to be paid at the rate of 10 Kcs. per kilo of ore. From the moment the ore-checker takes over possession of the ore, it never leaves Soviet control. The ore is brought out of the mine under Soviet supervision; it is then loaded on trucks by guarded PW's and brought to Bratrstvi prior to further shipment.

In every mine 25 to 30 teams of pickmen are used, and each team blasts twice during a single shift. Czech or German pickmen do all their own preparatory work and are permitted to work only in one assigned mine. Soviet pickmen, however, work in various mines where needed, and, in addition to an assigned helper, have two to four PW's working for them to clear away the slag after blasting, so that they can continue drilling and blasting without interruption. Because of this difference, Soviet miners are able to earn much more than the Czechs. A Soviet pickman who does approximately one half of the work done by a Czech pickman earns about 30,000 Kcs. per month, while the Czech earns from 8,000 to 10,000 Kcs. per month. Soviet miners also make sure that they handle all the most productive veins. This condition has existed in every mine since the spring of 1947, when the Soviets received their special directive from Moscow, and is a source of deep resentment on the part of the Czechs. In December 1947 the Czech miners walked out in a one-day protest strike, leaving on the job only Volkedutsche miners and PW's (scarcely a third of the normal labor complement). The Czech and Slovak workers held meetings in which they discussed the situation with the local representative of the Industrial Council. The matter was discussed at length by the Mine Administration, but nothing could be done, since the Soviet pickmen were supported by the Soviet engineers who had final authority. The only result of the strike was a mass meeting at which the local Communist Party Secretary declared that no striking was legal during the two year plan. He emphasized that the results of such a strike could be disastrous to the individuals taking part, especially since the Jachymov industry was so important and Soviet interests were involved. The meeting ended with adoption of a resolution that all miners were satisfied with the Mine Administration, that they realized any strike to be contrary to governmental directives and Czechoslovak-Soviet interests. The resolution also contained the miners' agreement to make up work lost during the strike by working the following Sunday without pay. The attempted strike intensified antagonism of Soviet and Czechoslovak nationals.

b. Ore Collection

Because of the tempo of the work, it was feared that much uranium ore was being lost along with the slag. In order to remedy the situation, special teams were assigned the job of checking slag with the same devices used in prospecting. When the device indicated that ore was present in the slag, it was dug out by hand and collected in a bucket. Both men and women were employed in this work. A premium of 10 Kcs. per kilo of reclaimed uranium ore

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was paid.

c. Floods in the Mines

In November 1947 there was a long period of rain which brought on a thaw. The excess of water had an unfavorable effect on almost all of the mines. By the middle of December 1947 almost all mines were flooded to a point at which work was impossible. The Svornost mine was the most severely affected, as the water reached 20 meters in depth, and pumping and cleaning operations lasted seven weeks. Normal mining could be resumed only at the beginning of February 1948.

d. Svornost Mine

The Svornost Mine is in the upper part of the city of Jachymov, approximately 300 meters from the main church. Svornost is the second oldest mine in Jachymov, is 994 meters deep, and employs from 550 to 600 persons, exclusive of PW's. In compliance with a Soviet directive in 1947, the fittings at Svornost were for the most part replaced. This repair work cost approximately 100,000,000 Kcs. and took three months to complete. Svornost is connected by tunnels with Rovnost and Elias. A radium water conduit which formerly supplied the well-known Jachymov spa flows through the Svornost Mine. This stream originates at Rovnost and flows through a normal subterranean stream-bed to Svornost where it is collected in large vats and pumped into the conduit. At Svornost, the radium water is about 60° C.

Svornost suffered heavily in the flood of December 1947 (see preceding paragraph) primarily because it is the deepest mine in the Jachymov area. The water supply in Jachymov flows from the Elias area through the Rovnost area and then via Svornost tunnels to the city's reservoir. When so much water appeared suddenly in the pits, the water pumps were working automatically at a very slow rate and no inspector was present. It was only later that the greatly increased amount of water was discovered, and after two hours, the water pumps were flooded and rendered incapable of operating. Since this rush of water occurred almost simultaneously in all the other mines, no water pumps could be lent to Svornost, and before new pumps arrived from Olomouc (Olmuets), there were already 20 meters of water in the Svornost mine. The Mine Administration appealed to the Prague Fire Department, but they, even with the use of divers, could not repair the flooded pumps. The new pumps from Olomouc proved too weak to move the large amount of water. All operations had to be suspended until the water receded normally, when repairs could begin. All the beams in the lower regions of the mine had to be replaced. The tracks had for the most part been washed away, and the flooded pumps had been rendered useless by the mine that had penetrated them before they ceased operating. Damage to the water pumps amounted to 15,000,000 Kcs. and all operations of the mine were halted for seven weeks. At first, the Mine Administration looked for a scapegoat, but desisted since the water pump director, STEP (believed to be a nephew of the first General Director of Jachymov) was a stalwart Communist and could not be blamed.

Production at Svornost is fairly low, especially since the summer of 1946, when a number of uranium veins were assigned to Rovnost for exploitation.

e. Rovnost Mine

This mine, located approximately two kilometers from Jachymov, has its entrance on a mountain side. It is approximately 600 meters deep, and employs 400 to 500 miners, plus a large number of PW's. Rovnost is a relatively new mine and in 1947 was entirely fitted out with new machinery. Production at Rovnost is materially higher than at Svornost. In the neighborhood of Rovnost begins the uranium water stream mentioned above. In order to provide the uranium water with a sufficient radio-active content, it used to be collected in large vats which contain approximately 800 pounds of pure uranium. In the fall of 1946, however, the Soviets ordered that this uranium be removed from the vats and thrown in with the normal production. Since then, the uranium water is not satisfactory for use by the health resort at Jachymov.

f. Bratrstvi Mine

This mine is at the foot of the Neklid (Unruhe) mountain, about five kilometers from Jachymov. Bratrstvi is the newest mine in Jachymov, is approximately 350 to 400 meters deep, and employs 600 to 700 miners, plus a large number of PW's.

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There is no other mine in the immediate vicinity of Bratrstvi, which is the best equipped and has the highest production. The average miner at Svornost and Rovnost earns between 10,000 and 12,000 Kcs. per month, whereas the average miner at Bratrstvi earns 18,000 to 25,000 Kcs. in the same period. In Bratrstvi there is an ore-crushing mill to which ore from the entire uranium area is delivered. Here it is washed, crushed, and sorted. The crushed ore reaches the mill through a sluice and is conducted over various surfaces which, through a particular process, determine the specific weight of the uranium. Also through this process the uranium is retained and the unproductive earth and stone drawn off. The uranium ore is subjected to this procedure a number of times until relatively pure ore has been separated from the slag. The pure ore is then packed in special crates and is trucked under strong Soviet guard to the Soviet Zone of Germany. Its actual point of destination is unknown to source, although he believes it to be in the neighborhood of Berlin. Here it is allegedly reloaded on airplanes and flown to Russia. In July 1947 a special train containing uranium ore was sent to Germany. This train met with an accident in the neighborhood of Jachymov, having had a minor collision with another train, whereby three carloads of ore were turned over and the ore dumped on the road. In this special train there were fifteen carloads filled with uranium ore.

E. Elias and Irena

Located between Jachymov and Werlsberg. Elias is an old silver-mining site which was reopened on 25 August 1946 by Engineer CERNIK. The mine was filled with earth down to a depth of 42 meters where the shaft was closed off by wooden planks. By October 1946 the dirt was removed and the shaft opened. The mine is 142 meters deep and was found to be fairly well preserved. At a depth of 25 meters a uranium vein was discovered, and the Soviets demanded immediate exploitation of the vein even before proper machinery was installed. This proved impossible, however, because of a dearth of labor. Because of the lack of hoisting machinery, a windlass with a cable 100 meters long was operated by hand by the PW's. The first foreman at Elias, Antonin KRENEK, organized the work, largely on his own initiative, so that operations could proceed. In December 1946 the Irena Mine, approximately 200 meters from Elias, was opened. Both mines were fitted out at approximately the same time with buildings, compressors, electric transformers, etc.

Even before the opening of Elias and Irena, Soviet geologists had determined that a large quantity of uranium ore was present in the slag pile that had grown up outside Elias in the course of former operations. When the mine was reopened, it was ordered that this slag pile be exploited for all uranium ore present therein. The Soviet Chief of Technical Section, Engr. PAVLENKO, devised a plan whereby a brook flowing along the slag pile would be diverted so as to flow through a long trough, and machinery, attached to the trough, would sort out uranium ore from the slag as it flowed by. The water trough was approximately 350 meters in length, was built of wood and was 45 cm wide and 30 cms high. The slag had to be shoveled by hand into the water trough where it was carried by the water over a group of sieve-like structures. The Czech engineers and foremen were skeptical about the plan, especially since it was poorly organized. There was no provision to regulate flow of water into the trough which meant that the full power of the brook flowed into the trough, its force varying with weather conditions. In rainy weather, the water flowed with such force that both ore and slag were carried over the surface too rapidly and flowed away. Because of its poor operation, the plan was abandoned, and Engr. PAVLENKO ordered the use of prospecting apparatus to test the slag. Ore-containing pieces were then shipped to Bratrstvi where they were separated, cleared and sorted. Reclamation of the slag pile continued, except in the winter months, until autumn of 1947. During the winter months, Elias and Irena could be reached only by horse-drawn wagons. Early in December 1946, an order was issued by the Mine Direction to build an electric circuit through forest country with the labor of PW's from Rovnost, to supply the two new mines. It was then discovered that the existing electric circuit supplying Jachymov with 22,000 volts of electricity and originating in Nove Sedlo (Neusattol) was insufficient to meet the demands on electricity made by the new and heavy machinery recently installed in the various shafts. For a time Jachymov was plagued with short circuits which halted all operation in the mines. In order to remedy the situation, a new circuit to carry 60,000 volts was built during the winter of 1947 from Nove Sedlo to Jachymov.

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In October 1946 two new American compressors were issued to Elias and Irena. Before construction of foundations for these two compressors had been started, the local manager of Elias asked Engr. PAVLENKO if an arrangement for procurement of spare parts had been concluded with the American firm. PAVLENKO gave no answer and a few days later ordered that the two compressors be returned to the warehouse. At the beginning of March 1947, the former local manager of Rovnost, Vaclav HOSTA was assigned to Elias and Irena as new local manager. At the close of 1947, the following situation existed: Irena and Elias had been equipped with all necessary buildings and most of the necessary machinery, and both mines were producing at a low level.

h. Marie Antoinetta Mine

This is an old silver mine, located in Jachymov in the health resort section of the town, approximately 600 meters from the Radium Palace Hotel. The mine was reopened in July 1947 and has since employed 45 to 50 miners. Soon after its reopening a vein of uranium ore was discovered. The mine is in the middle of a small mountain and has horizontal tunnels leading to the outside entrance at the foot of the slope. Marie Antoinetta is equipped with an electric winch installed inside the mountain at the top of the main vertical shaft.

i. Thomas Mine

Located in the center of the town of Sucha (Duernberg). A former prospecting shaft, it was opened for production in the spring of 1947. By January 1948, 35 to 40 miners were employed there. The mine has no hoisting machinery, and is serviced by an electric winch. Thomas is located at the foot of the Neklid (Unruhe) Mountain and has a problem of water seepage, which seriously hinders operation. Nevertheless, the mine produced 230 kgs. of uranium ore in each of the months of December 1947 and January 1948. It is believed that this mine will soon be connected by a tunnel to Bratrstvi.

j. Ludvik Mine

This new mine, opened in late autumn of 1947, is located at ~~Bor~~ Dar (Gottesgab), approximately 150 meters from the German border. Fifty miners are employed here, although Ludvik has not yet produced any uranium ore. In the immediate neighborhood of the Ludvik mine is a prospecting shaft under its administration. Source believes that both Ludvik and this shaft are attempting to exploit the same uranium vein which runs into Oberwiesental in the Soviet Zone of Germany. Both shafts are believed promising.

k. Sejfy Mine

Located approximately 3 kilometers, from the city of Sejfy on the Sejfy-Potucký (Breitenbach) highway. This is an old sulphur mine that was reopened in the autumn of 1946. Since uranium ore was discovered soon after the opening of the mine, a new vertical shaft was sunk approximately 400 meters away from the old mine. There are about 150 miners working at this site, excluding PW's who have their own compound in the area. Recently, both new and old shafts were connected and all ore was hoisted through the new shaft. In the opening months of 1948 the shafts produced between 1,200 and 1,500 kgs. of uranium ore per month. Since snowfall in this area is heavy during winter, and since the city of Sejfy is a small settlement, all supplies for the workers and their families must be brought in before the advent of winter. For this reason a number of families move to Jachymov or Hejdek for the winter, which has produced a noticeable labor shortage during the winter months. In order to solve this problem, the Mine Administration in the winter of 1947 opened a large work kitchen where entire families were fed. The Sejfy mine is under the management of Engr. PIHYR.

l. Potucký (Breitenbach) Mine

This mine is close to the Saxony border, and is separated from the German town of Johannes-Georgenstadt only by the border road block. There are about 170 miners employed here plus PW's. Two shafts make up the mine. One is in the immediate vicinity of the German border and is actually connected by a tunnel to a mine on the German side of the border. This tunnel has been blocked off, however, since a number of German PW's used it to escape. The second shaft is in the center of the town of Potucký, and is still regarded as a prospecting shaft. The first shaft is an old silver mine, which was reopened in the fall of 1946 and has been producing since the spring of 1947. During the last months of 1947, this shaft produced approximately 2,000 kgs. of uranium ore per month. All of the mine installations and machinery are old.

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m. Vejprty Mine

There are two prospecting shafts in this town. In all probability, they had been opened merely to conduct prospecting operations throughout the old tunnels and shafts of the area. Prospecting has continued since the fall of 1946 but to date none of the old tunnels and shafts has shown promise of yielding uranium ore. There are about 45 - 50 miners employed in Vejprty and no P.T.'s. The fittings of these two prospecting shafts are of poor quality, since all good machinery is needed for operations in the vicinity of Jachymov.

n. Werlsberg Mine

Werlsberg is considered a suburb of Jachymov. In March 1947 three prospecting shafts were opened here, but none of the three began actual production until six months later. All three are considered potentially rich in uranium ore, and before the close of 1947 they were fitted with electric winches, wooden buildings, and small compressors. In November and December 1947, production began with a total of 400 to 500 kgs. of ore per month. The number of miners at these three shafts total 80, plus a large number of P.T.'s. These shafts are about three kilometers from Elias and Irena and about 50 meters from the Jachymov-Abertamy highway. This mine is considered to have a promising future.

o. Pernink (Baerlingen) Mine

This prospecting shaft at the edge of the city was opened in the fall of 1946 and as yet has shown no trace of uranium ore. Since the summer of 1947, ten to fifteen miners have been employed here in the hope that ore may still be located.

p. Horni Slavkov Mine

In the fall of 1946 two shafts were opened approximately two kilometers from Horni Slavkov. In the spring of 1947 both shafts located veins of uranium ore and were then assigned a large number of P.T.'s who constituted the majority of laborers on this site until the close of 1947. In the fall of 1947 a large P.T. enclosure was built here as well as wooden mine buildings. Both shafts are equipped with electric winches. The future of these two shafts is considered very promising. Since there is very little water seepage into the pits, work can proceed continuously and without pumping operations. Very few civilian miners were employed here until the close of 1947, largely because of poor housing conditions in the city. In the winter of 1947, the Mine Administration completed a large-scale plan for mining and residential buildings, construction of which was to be begun in the spring of 1948. Before source left the area there were 45 to 50 civilian miners working on the site. Source overheard members of the Mine Administration state that Horni Slavkov has the most promising future of all the mines in the Jachymov area. On the site are three Soviet engineers who are personally responsible for speedy completion of construction work on the shafts. In January 1948, the Social Welfare Section, together with the Personnel Section, of the Mine Administration completed a large scale plan for transfer of a large number of laborers to Horni Slavkov in the near future.

q. Krasno Nad Lesy (Schonfeld) Mine

In May and June 1947 rumors were circulating at the Mine Administration that this old tungsten shaft, which belonged to the Pribram Basin, would be purchased. As negotiations were drawing to a close, however, the large-scale flood of November - December 1947 occurred, and the Krasno nad Lesy shaft was flooded with 80 meters of water for approximately three weeks. It was decided that cleaning and repairing would cost too much to make the purchase worthwhile, especially since it was never completely established that the mine shows promise of yielding uranium ore. The Soviet Mine Administration conducted all prospecting in the area and was behind the attempted purchase. It is not known if this action will be pursued any further.

r. Abertamy Mine

In Abertamy a new vertical shaft, one kilometer from the middle of the town, was opened in the fall of 1946. The shaft is somewhat similar to that at Horni Slavkov, as it is on a level space, has very little water seepage, and has tapped a

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large uranium vein. Most of the workers are Poles, although civilian miners number 80 to 120 men. There is also a prospecting shaft close to the Abertany mine employing 10 to 12 men. It is believed that this shaft will be connected by means of a ventilation or water-evacuation tunnel to the main shaft at Abertany. While working on this connecting shaft, however, uranium ore was discovered here also. Large scale construction of surface buildings has been planned on this site for 1948.

s. Horni Blatna (Platten) Mine

The shaft at Horni Blatna is similar to that at Pernink. The prospecting shaft, which has shown no real promise as yet, employs 15 to 20 miners. Despite lack of results, the Soviets have requested that work in this shaft be continued. It is possible that the Soviets are seriously considering exploitation of this particular area sometime in the future, since in the fall of 1947 the Building Administration Section of the Mine Administration received a directive that a former machinery factory (confiscated property) in this area was to be requisitioned. After requisition had been completed, the Construction Section of the Mine Administration was ordered to remodel the factory so that it could serve as a branch of the central warehouse.

t. Josefstoll Mine in Jachymov

This is the oldest in the site in Jachymov, about 600 meters from the Svornost Mine and not considered worth reopening by the Soviets. There has been talk, however, that a subterranean tunnel might be linked with Josefstoll should traces of uranium ore be discovered here.

24. Miscellaneousa. Prospecting

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Shortly before the Communist coup in February 1948, [redacted] the Soviets were preparing to open a large number of new prospecting shafts. It is not yet known on which sites these shafts will be opened. Since the summer of 1946, the Soviets have been conducting surveying throughout the entire uranium area of Czechoslovakia although it is not known where they have achieved indications of uranium ore. The construction necessary for the opening of new shafts will no doubt be attended by large scale difficulties because of inadequate roads and difficult terrain. The Mine Administration is still unprepared for winter operations. During the winters of 1946 and 1947 it often happened that communication between outlying mines and Jachymov were cut off for periods of three weeks to a month. During the winter, production in the mines outside Jachymov district has been 40 to 50 percent lower than in the summer.

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b. Number of laborers

[redacted] free laborers in the Czechoslovak uranium area (including Soviet nationals) number between 8000 and 10000, with Poles making up an additional 4000.

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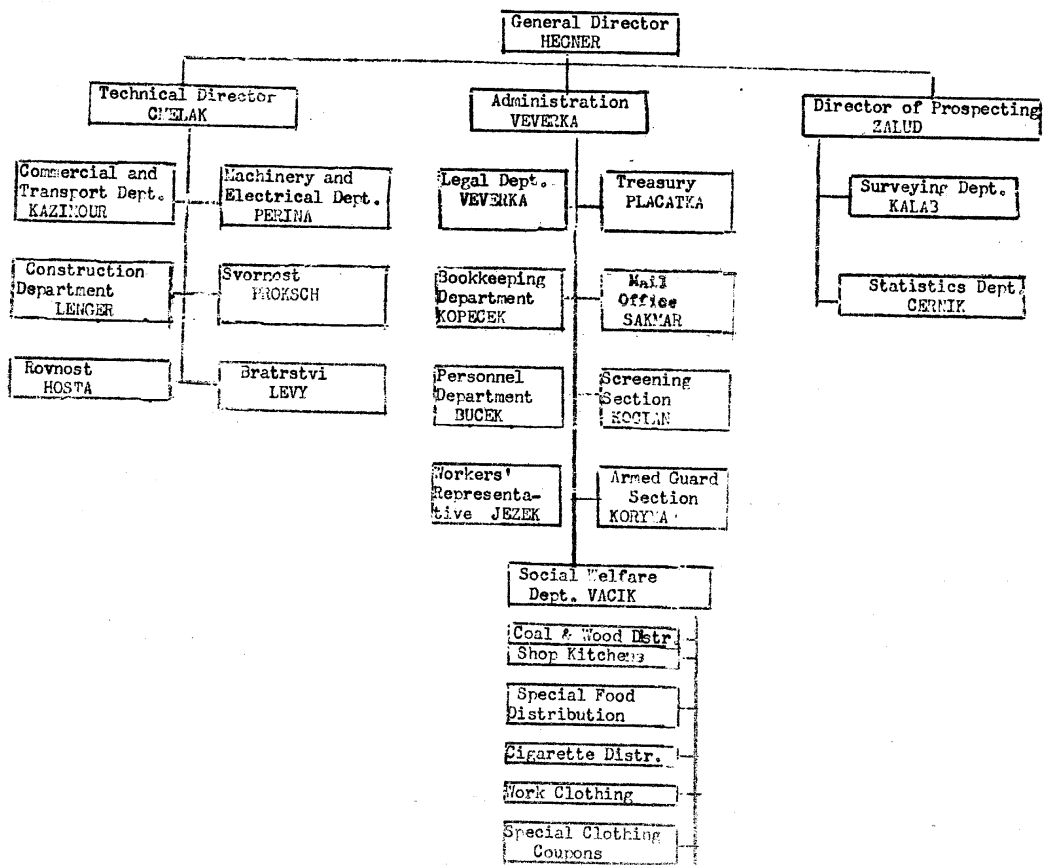
25. Uranium Area in the Soviet Zone of Germany

News of the uranium area in the Soviet Zone of Germany usually comes through German families still in Jachymov who have relatives living across the border. On the German side of the Czechoslovak-Saxony border, uranium mines are located at Oberwiesental, Aue and Johannes-Georgenstadt. It is believed that most uranium mines in the Soviet Zone of Germany are of very primitive construction. About 80,000 miners are employed. Since February 1948 the area has been completely isolated from outside traffic, except for trains which are allowed to pass through the area, subject to a strict check before entering and on leaving.

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First Post-War Organizational Table (See Para 9)

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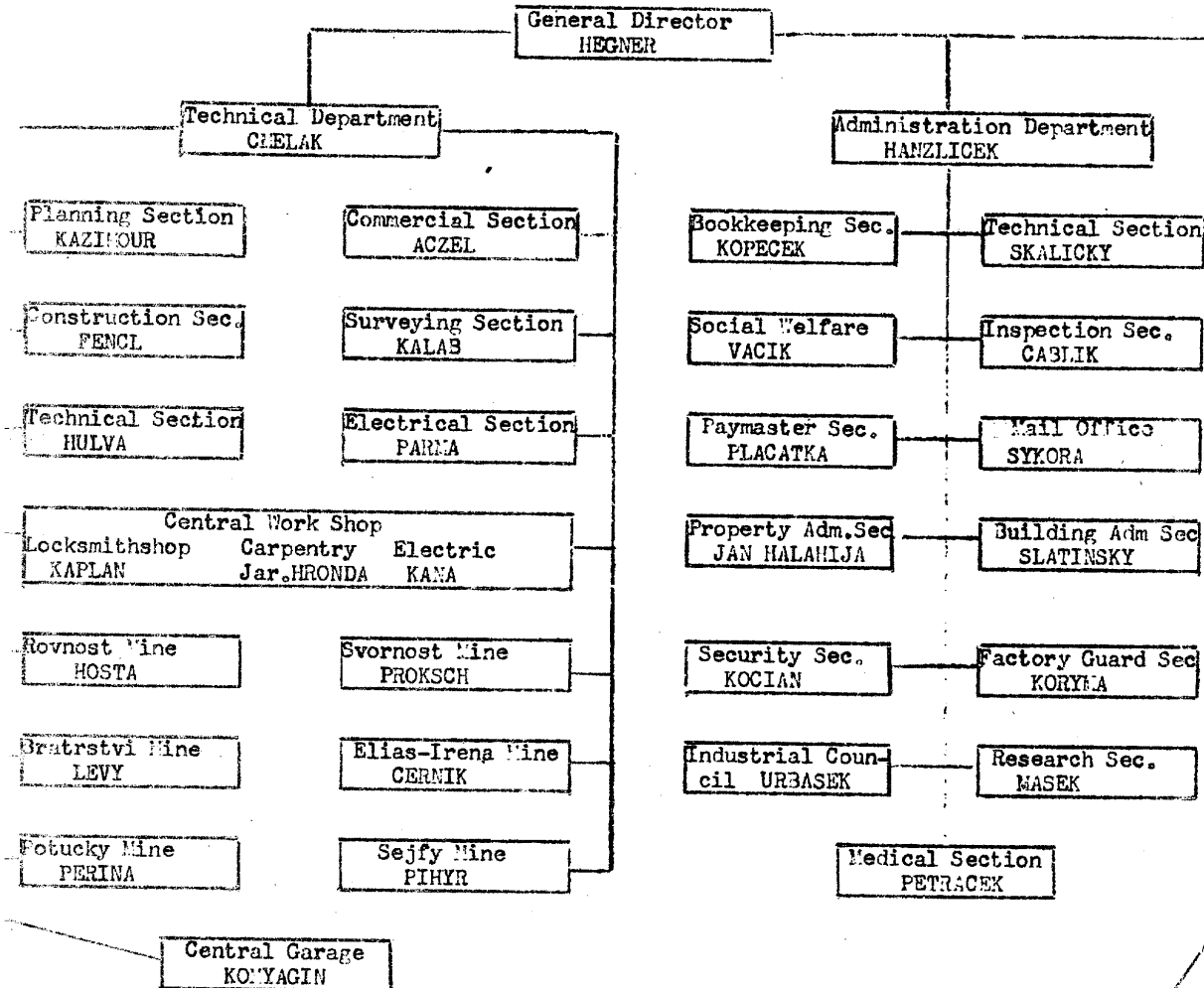
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JACHYMOV MINE ADMINISTRATION AS OF APRIL 1947

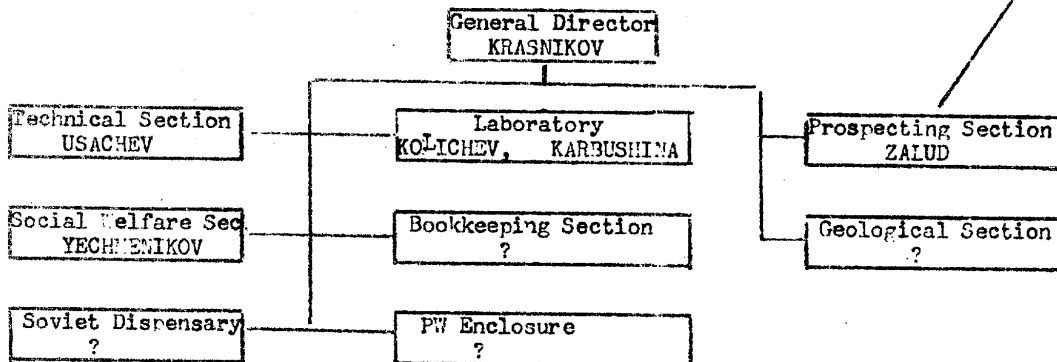
Chart B

(See para 20)

CZECH ADMINISTRATION



SOVIET ADMINISTRATION



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